

weight and second areas having a second basis weight located on said nonwoven web according to a predetermined pattern, said first basis weight being greater than said second basis weight, said first basis weight and said second basis weight ranging from about 0.2 ounces per square yard to about 9 ounces per square yard, the web being compressed and thermally bonded together.

Please add the following new claims:

74. (New) A non-woven web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web consists essentially of polymeric fibers.

75 (New) A non-woven web as defined in claim 27, wherein the web consists essentially of polymeric fibers.

76. (New) A laminate as defined in claim 35, wherein said non-woven web consists essentially of polymeric fibers.

#### REMARKS

Currently, claims 1-7, 9-16, 27-50 and 59-76 remain pending in the present application, including independent claims 1, 27 and 35. Claim 1 is generally directed to a non-woven web defining a first area having a first basis weight and a second area having a second basis weight being located on the non-woven web according to a predetermined pattern. The first basis weight is at least about 1.5 times greater than the second basis weight. Claim 1 further requires that the web be compressed and thermally bonded together.

As stated in the present specification on page 8, webs made according to the present application are particularly well adapted for being used as a surge material, a